Broward County Hurricane Preparedness –

Automobiles and Trucks

The best place for an automobile or a truck is in a garage or a carport. If a garage or carport is not available, the vehicle should be parked close to the building on the side away from the wind. Vans and semi-trailers are capable of being blown over if they are exposed to the full force of the winds. Vehicles should not be parked near a tree that might fall or where power lines might fall. Vehicles should be kept from between houses located very close to one another since wind will probably funnel through this area. Vehicles should be filled with a sufficient amount of fuel, preferably a full tank. Fuel might not be available for days after the hurricane strikes. Batteries should be fully charged, since dampness after the storm might make the vehicle harder to start. It is good to have the radio working since in an extreme emergency, it may be the only source of information. If a vehicle is located in the beach area, a covering should be placed over the windows to prevent blowing sand from pitting them. Use old blankets or double sheets and tape fully into place. Remember that any opening, no matter how small, will allow wind to get under covering and could be blown away. Remove tape immediately after the storm to avoid leaving marks on the vehicle. Do not ride around to see what is happening. In the past people have become stuck in the sand on the beach roads or have had their vehicles stalled by flooding in the streets caused by the advancing rains. If a vehicle is stalled, the occupants should leave the vehicle and seek the closest shelter. If no shelter is available, the occupants should remain in the vehicle with the windows rolled up and the engine turned off.

Back to the USAG-Miami Hurricane Preparedness Page